

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for asynchronously transferring at least one message signal from a server computer to at least one client computer, comprising:
 - assigning the at least one message signal, when the at least one message signal appears on the server computer, at least one further message signal;
 - writing the at least one further message signal to at least one pipe of the server computer;
 - transmitting the at least one further message signal, via the at least one pipe, to at least one servlet of the server computer; and
 - transferring the at least one further message signal from the at least one servlet to the client computer via a connection,
wherein a fate of the at least one message signal and the at least one further message signal are decoupled.
2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the client computer includes at least one communication software program, the method including using the at least one communication software program to set up the connection to the servlet and to execute an audio program of the server computer and associated with the at least one further message signal, on the client computer.
3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a connection from the client computer to the server computer is set up only when needed.
4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, while the client computer is connected to the server computer, a first access operation by the client computer to the server computer prompts a communication program of the servlet to start, and further access operations

by the client computer to the server computer prompt monitoring of whether the communication program is currently running.

5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the communication program is used to transmit an identification information item for the pipe to the servlet.

6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the identification information item includes at least one of a descriptor and a software address for the pipe.

7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connection includes a transfer channel, including at least part of at least one of the Internet and an intranet.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for asynchronously transferring at least one message signal, comprising:

a server computer, including at least one pipe, adapted to assign the at least one message signal, when it appears, a further message signal and adapted to write the further message signal to the at least one pipe;

at least one servlet of the server computer, to which the further message signal is adapted to be transmitted via the at least one pipe;

a transfer channel; and

at least one client computer, to which the further message signal is adapted to be transferred by the server computer using the servlet,

wherein a fate of the at least one message signal and the at least one further message signal are decoupled.

9. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the client computer includes a communication software program, adapted to set up a connection to the servlet and adapted to execute an audio program, which the server computer includes and which is associated with the further message signal, on the client computer.

10. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the servlet includes a communication program adapted be executed upon a first access operation by the client

computer on the server computer and adapted to be checked upon further access operations by the client computer to the server computer in order to determine whether it is currently running.

11. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the communication program is adapted to be used to transmit an identification information item for the pipe to the servlet.

12. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the identification information item includes at least one of a descriptor and a software address for the pipe.

13. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the transfer channel includes at least part of at least one of the Internet and an intranet.

14. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein a connection from the client computer to the server computer is set up only when needed.

15. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein, while the client computer is connected to the server computer, a first access operation by the client computer to the server computer prompts a communication program of the servlet to start, and further access operations by the client computer to the server computer prompt monitoring of whether the communication program is currently running.

16. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the communication program is used to transmit an identification information item for the pipe to the servlet.

17. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the identification information item includes at least one of a descriptor and a software address for the pipe.

18. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein, while the client computer is connected to the server computer, a first access operation by the client computer to the server computer prompts a communication program of the servlet to start, and further access operations by the client computer to the server computer prompt monitoring of whether the communication program is currently running.

19. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the communication program is used to transmit an identification information item for the pipe to the servlet.
20. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the identification information item includes at least one of a descriptor and a software address for the pipe.
21. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein, while the client computer is connected to the server computer, a first access operation by the client computer to the server computer prompts a communication program of the servlet to start, and further access operations by the client computer to the server computer prompt monitoring of whether the communication program is currently running.
22. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the communication program is used to transmit an identification information item for the pipe to the servlet.
23. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the identification information item includes at least one of a descriptor and a software address for the pipe.
24. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the connection includes a transfer channel, including at least part of at least one of the Internet and an intranet.
25. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the servlet includes a communication program adapted be executed upon a first access operation by the client computer on the server computer and adapted to be checked upon further access operations by the client computer to the server computer in order to determine whether it is currently running.
26. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein the communication program is adapted to be used to transmit an identification information item for the pipe to the servlet.
27. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein the identification information item includes at least one of a descriptor and a software address for the pipe.

28. (Currently Amended) A server computer for asynchronously transferring at least one message signal, comprising:

at least one pipe, wherein the server computer is adapted to assign the at least one message signal, when it appears, a further message signal and is adapted to write the further message signal to the at least one pipe; and

at least one servlet, to which the further message signal is adapted to be transmitted via the pipe, wherein the further message signal is adapted to be transferred to a client computer by the server computer using the servlet,

wherein a fate of the at least one message signal and the at least one further message signal are decoupled.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (New) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein a sound content of the audio program is characteristic of the associated at least one further message.